

THE ORIGINAL

Moonbeams

BY COLONEL LITTLE

The Smallest Newspaper in the West

VOL II, NO. 36

Boyes Hot Springs, Calif.

Friday, March 8, 1957

By Mail: \$1.29 per year. Pickup, free.

Pre-Easter Lenten Season is ripe in the Valley of the Moon

Sure it's possible—that by the time you read this the sun will be shining. But the weatherman has been so far off in his predictions the last few weeks that it's a real gamble to make any prediction. However, the rains have started the grass growing at an amazing rate, and the householder hasn't had any opportunity to get out the old lawnmower and do anything about it.

Middle age is when you still have the old spark but it takes more puffing. VALLEY WATCH REPAIR, Boyes. Gift headquarters.

Remember the last time the Seals trained here? (Or was it the Oaks?) Stayed here all of March, had big games slated for each Sunday—and each Sunday it rained pitchforks. They never returned.

OUR RESORT, El Verano. Home of draft beer and the Stein club. Harvey and Melina will serve you, and you'll like it. Mixed drinks.

Rustic Inn in Glen Ellen has a fish fry slated for tonight (Friday). The Rustic has them frequently, and they're always mighty good and well worth attending. Gunner and Ruth invite you. Yes, there'll be some beans too.

RUSTIC INN, Glen Ellen. Main corner. Authentic western atmosphere. Jack London's favorite tavern. Last of the 11 old-timers.

There's a bird down in Los Angeles—calls himself Lank Rivers. An actor. Not much work. So he emblazoned his name on billboards and in the variety magazines, then got a TV interview. No good parts yet. But he asked for advice as to how to get going. One bit of advice might prove helpful—get rid of those blankety-blank sideburns!

AQUA SOFT—Water Treating Co. Sonoma owned. Call Petaluma Porter 2-7453. Evenings, Sonoma, Webster 8-3433.

Baseball fans, Attention! They're all in spring training already, and the Boston Red Sox will be playing three exhibition games in San Francisco this month even. Why not let's get up a big chartered bus party either for one of these games or for the opening game early in April?

ROZARIO'S PALMS INN, Verano. A comfortable, up-to-the-minute hotel, for the discriminating. Splendid dining room, and bar.

Some other doings tonight. El Verano Improvement club has a housewarming at its new clubhouse across the street from Little Switzerland. It's for members and friends, and little birds tell us there'll be roast turkey and all that goes with it, including refreshments. Fred Franklin is president. The clubhouse is all bright and shiny, with kitchen, cardroom, large assembly hall—and 'most everything.

RAY'S SIGNAL SERVICE, Arnold Drive at Cecilia, Eldridge. For Emergency Groceries any time; varied stock. WE 8-5811.

'Member that little ad we ran about a Southland gentleman who wanted a vineyard, maybe a winery too, and would go up to \$1 million? We got three quick answers, one from St. Helena. One who should know says there's more million dollar estates over in Napa valley than there are here. Hope one of them clicks. We just might horn in a little on the commission, some way or other.

MENDEL'S CAFE, Boyes Plaza. Splendid menu. Recently added: Spanish foods. Cocktail bar for the most discriminating.

Poor old Jackie Gleason. Hurt aplenty by the Perry Como show (same air time), he switched his format, has his group touring the world, and singing at every opportunity. His show remains good, all but his caterwauling, and he says he's now got the answer. If he'll cut out the vocalizing, maybe he has.

FRANK'S HARDWARE, Castner Bldg., Boyes. Paints, Tools, Glass. Household utensils, electrical appliances. Giftware.

We had company (cousins) last weekend from Van Nuys. Two days. They were mightily interested in our area, and we've noted these impressions they garnered:

They liked Little Switzerland and Paul's Resort on Saturday night. A shame Londonside, Top o' the World, and a coupla others weren't open.

Steered them to Hanna Center for Sunday morning mass, and they liked that immensely.

Drove them, through the rain, up Arnold drive to Glen Ellen, and that was intriguing. Stopped at Rustic Inn, Jack London's old hangout, and that too was pleasureable.

Also were able to take them through Sonoma mission.

They were amazed when we drove them through some of our old-worldish streets and alleys, with curves, narrow streets, fences and houses right out to the street line. Also back of the Mission Inn and over in Sonoma Vista.

Only disturbing question they had: "Why aren't there any sidewalks? Don't people ever walk? How about shoes?"

Oh yes. The weather was horrible, though they've also been having much similar weather down in the Southland. (Oh their names? Mr. and Mrs. Dan Sauer, formerly of Aurora, Ill., now of Van Nuys.)

YELL'S ACRES NURSERY, Glen Ellen. Good time of year to select our prize winning Dahlia tubers, and other of our specialties.

Sycamore Lodge opened for the season last Saturday night, after a three months' closed period. There were free eats, some good music and dancing, and it looks like a good season ahead for the Sycamore.

WILLARD FRENCH TV. 332 West Napa St., Sonoma. Phone WE 8-4242. 18 Years Full Time in Sonoma Valley. Repairs. Sales.

TODD CONSTRUCTION - ESTIMATING SERVICE. Subdivision Surveying. New location: Boyes Plaza, opposite Woodleaf.

Chicken House cafe has been sold by Lula McCormack to Dorothy Clemens. The former Lew's Lunch was only closed for a day or two. The McCormacks intend to resume business shortly in a Hot Springs location. They've made a host of friends during their operation of the Chicken House.

SONOMA FURNITURE MART, 113 West Napa St. We remodel, repair, refinish furniture; trade, buy or sell. Any kind of deal!

SONOMA MISSION INN, Boyes. Nationally known, noted for its splendid meals, excellent bar, luxurious accommodations.

Recently one of the big canned food houses came out with some new beans—"Campside"—claimed to have a distinctly new flavor. Tried 'em. Always have been looking for canned beans that tasted somewhere near as good as those the missus bakes at home. But no soap. The same old tired flavor, with that ?*|;*-?X&? tomato sauce permeating everything inside the can. Won't somebody sometime please come out with some GOOD canned beans?

ADOBE DRUG (Ray S. Duer, 417 First St. W., Sonoma. WE 8-2971.

Prescription Specialists Veterinary Supplies

TOWN HOUSE SUPPER CLUB, Glen Ellen. Wonderful cuisine. Exotic atmosphere. Music weekends. Finest cocktails. The Amantes.

Robbers gained entry to the Town House, Glen Ellen, early last Sunday morning. They pried open a cash drawer, got nothing; swiped

some raffle money in a jar (about \$4), and took two bottles of whiskey. That's about all. Lots of work for very little returns—and also they're in law danger!

SONOMA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, Arnold Drive. You'll like our Clown Room. Bring your guests here, for outstanding prestige. **RICHFIELD SERVICE**, Boyes Springs. Center of town. Fast and efficient service. Accessories. Bud Delaney, Proprietor.

Next Tuesday, local Lions will be hosts to about 75 Lions from Napa, at a Town House dinner.

Lions have added about 10 new members in the last few weeks, and seem to be the go-gettingest club in the Valley. Latest civic project: Donation of a \$1000 set of surgical instruments to the Valley hospital.

MIKE & ROSE'S BOYES SPRINGS STORE. For the finest steaks and your everyday meats, you'll never find a better market.

GLEN ELLEN LIQUOR STORE. On Arnold Drive. Fine wines and Liquors. A friendly place, always. "SLIM" WALLACE.

We do have a complaint against just about all the local eating places—the generally recognized high-class ones. With the soup, no crackers or croutons! And what good is soup without crackers?

A second disturbing omission is in the bread category. Almost all the swank eateries serve you french bread, sometimes warmed, or garlic bread, even those hard rolls (seldom soft hot rolls). Sure they're all edible, but we'd much rather have some real bread—white, raisin, rye, or 'most any kind.

FIELDS' AUTO REPAIRS, next to Texaco, Fetters Springs. Repairing all makes. Work guaranteed. Charges always low.

PAUL'S RESORT, Verano. Favorite for banquets, group and family dinners. Splendid menu. Cocktail bar. Paul at the organ.

Hank Goulette, for three years the man-behind-the-bar at Sonoma Golf and Country club, now is the generalissimo at the Town House, Glen Ellen. He has replaced the genial John, who has taken a new post in a San Jose night spot.

FRIBERG DRUG STORE, So. Broadway, Sonoma. Prescription specialists. A super drug store, large stocks. Soda fountain, too.

SEE GREENGRASS for expert advice on all matters pertaining to Real Estate, Insurance. Phone 8-4731. 18340 Sonoma Hiway.

As you know, it's getting uncomfortably close to income tax time. There's an April 15 deadline. But if you really want to get a good deal with your blankety-blank blanks better let an expert help you. He'll undoubtedly save you money. But he has other clients, too, and you should get your figures to him in plenty of time. That time is now. Of course we're referring considerably to Ed Reedy, in the

Greengrass building, Boyes, who has had many years of experience. But . . . Time's getting short!

AUTOMATIC WASHER & DRYER SERVICE. Installation, repairs, all makes. 19551 Cypress Lane, Sonoma. P.O. Box 114. WE 8-3176.

MAC DONALD'S JEWELRY, Sonoma. Watches, Rings, Shavers, Bands, Jewelry. Expert watch-clock repair service. Quality always.

Father and Sons annual banquet has been set for April 9, at the Veterans' Memorial building in Sonoma. Lions club is sponsor this year, and Al Gordon is head man. He promises a bang-up program, with Coach Phil Woolpert, all-Americans Bill Russell and Casey Jones of last year's national championship team, and all of the USF basketball team which is booked for the far-west sectional tournament at Corvallis, Ore., in another few days.

Some 400 persons will be on hand for the banquet, with superb entertainment, mighty good food, and a chance to help in a worthy civic project. Garner up a few kids and really make it an event!

EL DORADO HOTEL, Sonoma. Italian meals at their finest. American dinners too. Old West atmosphere. Cocktail bar. Try us.

LEE STARRETT, Masseur, at Bathhouse, Boyes. Massages, slenderizing. You'll look and feel better. Make it a habit.

We've got a good friend down in Los Angeles—works for the L.A. Times and has a weekly column in the Lansing (Mich.) State Journal. He's Walt Hackett, and he subscribes to Moonbeams. Also writes songs. (Think he's got a grown-up daughter who sings 'em.)

Just got a music folder from him, devoted to the songs of Eddie Dean, singer of westerns. Walt's contribution to the album is a western, "Waggin' Tongues," and it's typical. Even sang it ourself, out loud, but the missus didn't particularly appreciate our particular style of vocalizing. Walt's got a flair for this kind of music, and we'd predict he'll go places.

BOYES SPRINGS FOOD CENTER. Lowest prices, highest quality. Take-out license. Beverages. Friendly and fast service. One-Stop. **JIM'S MEATS, at Boyes Springs Food Center.** Only the very best in stock. Cut to your order. Delicatessen department. Drop in.

Showing our Southland visitors around last weekend brought to mind the differences in places.

Back in Holt, Mich., all we could show an out-of-state visitor was the Hogsback, a low ridge of gravelly hills stretching through the state—oh, maybe 50 feet high over the adjoining valley. That was about all—unless we showed them Lansing, the state capital, or Mason, the county seat.

Down in Chatsworth we could show a visitor the Iverson or Cor-

riganville ranches, where most of our western pictures are made. Yes, there also was the Fountain of the World camp, a religious cult's headquarters, a huge rock where amateur mountain climbers worked out, and aside from that all that was left was Los Angeles with its myriad attractions.

But in Boyes! Plenty to show a visitor. Would take two or three days, far longer than in our other environments.

Actually, we've got quite a Valley right here!

B & L LAUNDROMAT, Fetters. Bring your laundry here regularly for fast service and small charge. Wash. Dry. Iron.

SONOMA MILL & LUMBER CO., Hiway 12 at the big curve. Super service for contractors, carpenters, home owners, ranchers.

You know we've been inveighing for many months about our use (or non-use) of present school facilities. We've said we'll never vote for increased appropriations for new school expansions until the present school plants are used to capacity. That still is our policy.

In the March 1 issue of U. S. News and World Reports is a long and graphic article backing us up on our stand. The proposal, which you'll hear more and more about, is that we use a 12 months' school session, divided into four sections, with staggered classes and staggered vacation periods.

Isn't it rather silly to have a million dollar school plant, and use it not more than nine months a year? Rather than build new buildings, classrooms and such, just because the school schedule has always been made up that way? Where's the imagination?

The only real opposition to such a plan, the article says, comes from parents, who don't want their own vacation pattern altered.

But would these objectors rather have their taxes go up and up, because of this prejudice against vacations at different times of year? After all, vacationland today is infinitely different than in past years, and certainly a changed schedule could be adopted, especially if it would save you quite a lot of dollars. Ever give it a thought or two?

(We'd ever go further, and use the school plant many more hours per day than has been the practice heretofore.)

BUD'S GARAGE. Now located Railroad & Cherry Sts. Repairing all cars. Guaranteed service. Phone WE 3-3971.

SONOMA GROVE, Hiway 12 south of Boyes. Italian dishes our specialty—but also steaks, poultry, roasts, seafood—everything!

Got to thinking about early theatrical productions. Maybe you may remember similar conditions.

Back in Oregon, Ill., along about 1900 or later, there were, of course, school plays, skits in organizations, and an occasional play in the opera house (which had a "nigger heaven").

Earliest we remember was a minstrel show. A promoter came to town, enlisted the support of some lodge, and proceeded with rehearsals, and in three or four weeks staged a "production." Every male in town became a member of the cast, with interlocutor, end men, choruses, dances and whatnot. We did the piano playing for the group, and it all certainly was a howling success.

After the performance, your editor became the orchestra. The floor was cleared, and waxed, then everybody danced for an hour or two. The piano player got all the money that was collected—sometimes almost as much as \$3. Them were the days!

Later we teamed up with a drummer (he was really good) and played at dances following lodge meetings (ladies' nights) and again made more money than most of the young bucks about town—with a pretty good time for us thrown in.

R. A. "BOB" MILLER — "Yours for Life"

Insurance Exclusively Next to Telephone Co., Sonoma

DENNY'S COG CLUB, Boyes. Sportsmen's headquarters. Friendly service and companionship. Finest in mixed drinks.

Other night at a dinner the fellow across the table from us had on an identical shirt. Now (we so understand) most women would have been furious at such a coincidence. Us? Heck, we just thought what a discriminating shirt selector he was!

WALTER GRUNERT AUTO UPHOLSTERY, Fetters Springs. Texaco station. Seat covers, floor mats, truck cushions, interior work.

BATES AND EVANS, Funeral Directors. Sonoma Valley's Pioneer Funeral Service firm. Serving families of all faiths since 1879. 691 Broadway, Sonoma. WEBster 8-2686.

"... AND EVERYTHING NICE!"

Little girls are allegedly a blend of sugar and spice and everything nice. At least the jingle says so. A good many parents would dissent. Little girls have vinegar and iron, too; and delightfully unpredictable whims that will carry them deftly through life, to the utter confusion of the bewildered and adoring males.

Little girls grow up to be wise women in many ways. Quite a few of them are helping themselves along the way by activity in the Girl Scouts—and since March 10 to 16 is Girl Scout week, here is a sincere salute to the ladies.

Incidentally, although women don't like to discuss their age, we'll let you in on a secret. Girl Scouts of U.S.A. came into being on March 12, 1912, in Savannah, Ga., suh. Which makes them older, even, than Jack Benny.

ELECTRONIC DRIVE-IN—TV and Radio—Specializing in Auto Radio. 736 West Napa St., Sonoma. Kraft and Castori. WE 8-4839. BROADWAY CAFE, Sonoma. Where we welcome you wholeheartedly. Friendly cusses. Off-sale, too. Let's get acquainted.

CHEEZ, WHAT A PROBLEM EDUCATION IS!

Editor of California Farmer writes: My dad taught school in Missouri. It was a single-room building, and he taught eight grades at once. You got promoted by being moved back a row. Big problem was to lick a couple of "kids" in the eighth grade—who had run out two previous teachers. These were strapping hillbillies. We understand it was a pip of a fight.

We grouse about our taxes today and most of the bill is for schools, but take a look at what we demand for our children. It has become almost a must to have: Private lockers for each pupil. Shower and rest room facilities for boys and girls. An auditorium. A basketball court. A stage. A kitchen in which hot lunches are prepared for all pupils. Agricultural department. Teachers' lounge. Shop for manual training. Movie projection booth. Assembly rooms. Fleet of buses to haul pupils to and from school. First aid room. Dressing room for gym, etc.

The little red schoolhouse didn't throw us into the red, but, brother, these new schools cost a pot of money.

Let's take the elementary schools for example and see what it costs per pupil per year for the operating budget. On the average, the teacher's salary is around \$156, transportation \$14, food and community services \$5, other current expenses \$73—for a total of \$248 per pupil per year in the kindergarten through sixth grade. These figures can vary tremendously, but we have given an average taken from a study made by the Tax Digest of schools with average daily attendance of 450 to 850 pupils and the figures are for 1953-54.

VALLEY OF THE MOON CIGARS—Union label, handmade right here at home. Superior quality always. Most dealers have 'em.

MANCUSO WINES, Glen Ellen. Grower-produced. Available at every retail outlet. As good as the best, and better than most.

How your Moonbeams vary each week. We thought last week's issue was one of our very best. It had "everything"—good sense, and a few good stories, even poems. This week (as we're setting the type), it appears the paper's going to be on the drab side. Forgive us, yes?

POWDER BOX BEAUTY SHOP, Arnold Drive near Eldridge. A modern shop, experienced operators. For appointment call 8-2673. BANCROFT'S, Sonoma, on Broadway. Cut flowers, corsages, bouquets for hospital, funerals, and parties. See us for nursery plants.